(v) to develop faster the newly discovered fields and to step up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

(vi) to acquire acreages abroad.

(b) The estimated domestic production of crude oil in 2001-2002 is about 30 percent of the requirement. In the case of natural gas the domestic production is estimated to be around 54 percent of the projected demand.

(c) The details of production of crude oil and natural gas for the last three years are given below:—

Production	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Crude Oil (MMT)	32.72	31.95	32.43
Natural Gas (MCM)	27,428	28,446	29,477

MMT: Million Metric Tonne
MCM: Million Cubic Metre

Centenary celebrations of Digboi Oil Refinery

271. DR ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Digboi Oil Refinery in Assam, being the oldest refinery in Asia is completing 100 years of its existence;

(b) if so, the details of the incentives and promotional activities taken up to recognize its service to the Nation, excluding the celebrations; and

(c) the declarations, if any, already made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In addition to capacity increase and modernisation of the refinery with an investment to the tune of Rs. 1400 crores, the following events/ plans have been completed/are planned:

1. Energy Conservation Seminar conducted for Assam Industries in October, 2001.

2. Setting up of a "Centenary Museum" at Digboi.

3. Release of a commemorative stamp by the Department of Posts along with a first day cover.

Demand and production of CNG

272. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CNG is in high demand to control pollution in metro cities;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide CNG on priority;

(c) the total production of CNG annually *vis-a-vis* the demand; and

(d) the steps taken to reduce the gap between supply and demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) At present the supply of CNG is limited to the two cities of Delhi and Mumbai among the Metros. 87 stations in Delhi and 24 in Mumbai have already been opened to provide CNG to vehicles.

(c) There is no production of CNG. Natural gas is merely compressed to a high pressure for use in vehicles. Total allocation of Natural Gas to Mumbai and Delhi is 1.08 MMSCMD, which is greater than present demand.

(d) As on date there is no shortage of CNG *vis-a-vis* demand. However keeping in view the future demand of vehicles for CNG, measures are being taken to increase the number of stations and to enhance the compression capacity.

Trade restriction on dealers

273. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the petroleum dealers are restrained from doing other business or profession after or before commissioning their dealerships/distributorships;

(b) if so, the reasons for selecting such candidates as dealers who are already showing income less than 2 lakhs from other business;

(c) if not, whether the Oil Corporation can terminate the dealership/